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BUREAU OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES
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Sea-surface Temperature Charts, Eastern Pacific Ocean
April 1960

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C O N T E N T S

Acknowledgments

Description of Tropical Anomaly Charts

Sea-Surface Temperature Charts, Eastern Pacific Ocean, April 1960

Figure 1.--Mean sea-surface temperatures (°F) derived from approximately 8000 observations. Squares show temperature at weather-ship stations. Numerals on shore are temperatures at coastal and light stations.

Figure 2.--Deviation of sea-surface temperatures (°F) from 30-year mean charts of H. O. 225. Hatched areas are colder than mean.

Figure 3.--Deviation of sea-surface temperatures (°F) from those of April 1959. Hatched areas are colder than 1959.

Figure 4.--Sea-surface temperatures (°F) by 1-degree squares, approximately 2000 observations. Line under temperatures indicates average of two or more observations. Numerals on shore are temperatures at coastal and light stations.

Figure 5.--Deviation of sea-surface temperatures (°F) January 1960 - January 1959 by 1-degree squares. Shaded areas colder in 1960.

Figure 6.--Deviation of sea-surface temperatures (°F) February 1960 - February 1959 by 1-degree squares. Shaded areas colder in 1960.

Figure 7.--Deviation of sea-surface temperatures (°F) March 1960 - March 1959 by 1-degree squares. Shaded areas colder in 1960.

Figure 8.--Deviation of sea-surface temperatures (°F) April 1960 - April 1959 by 1-degree squares. Shaded areas colder in 1960.

James H. Johnson, Chief
Tuna Forecasting Investigation

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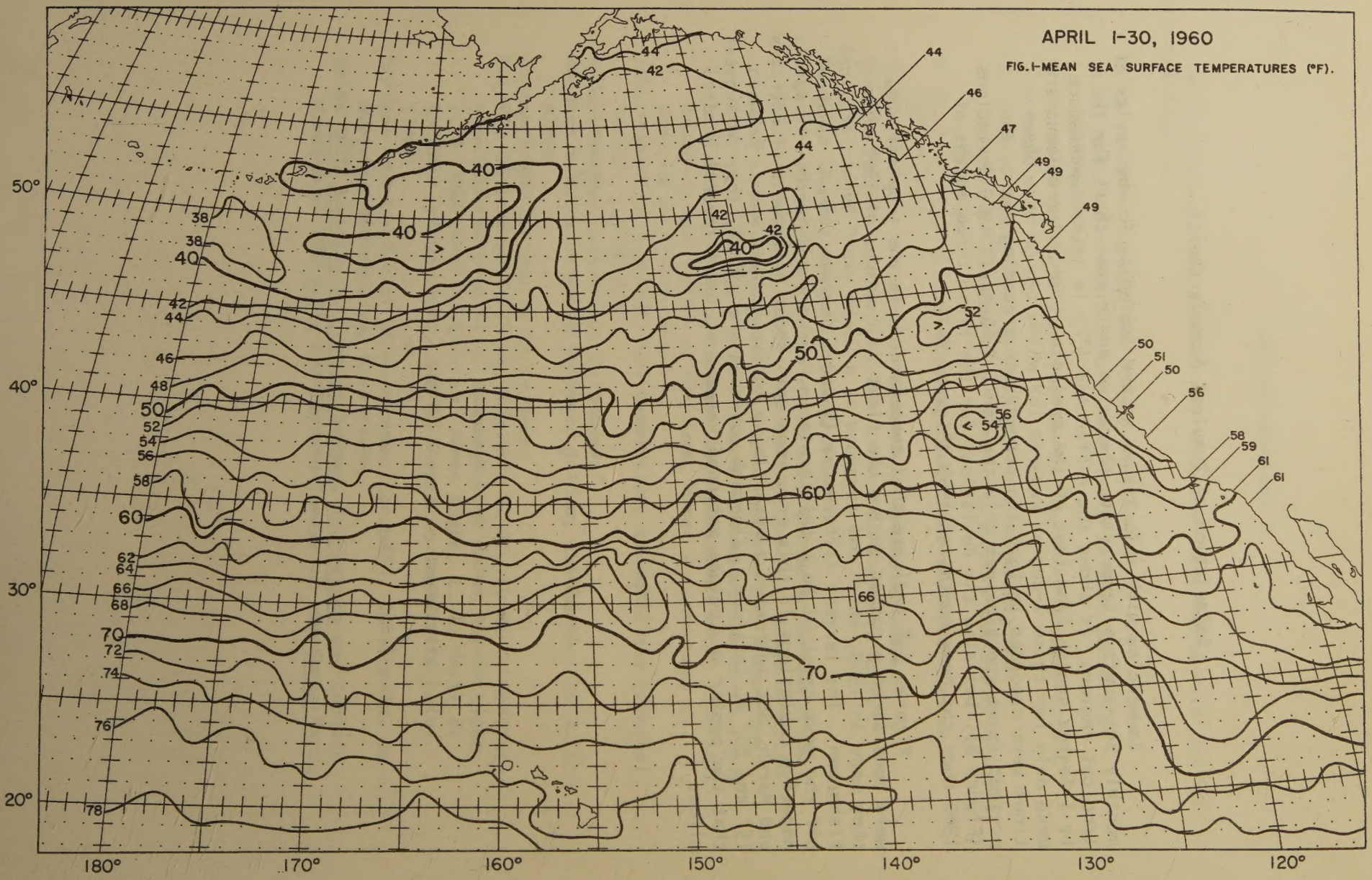
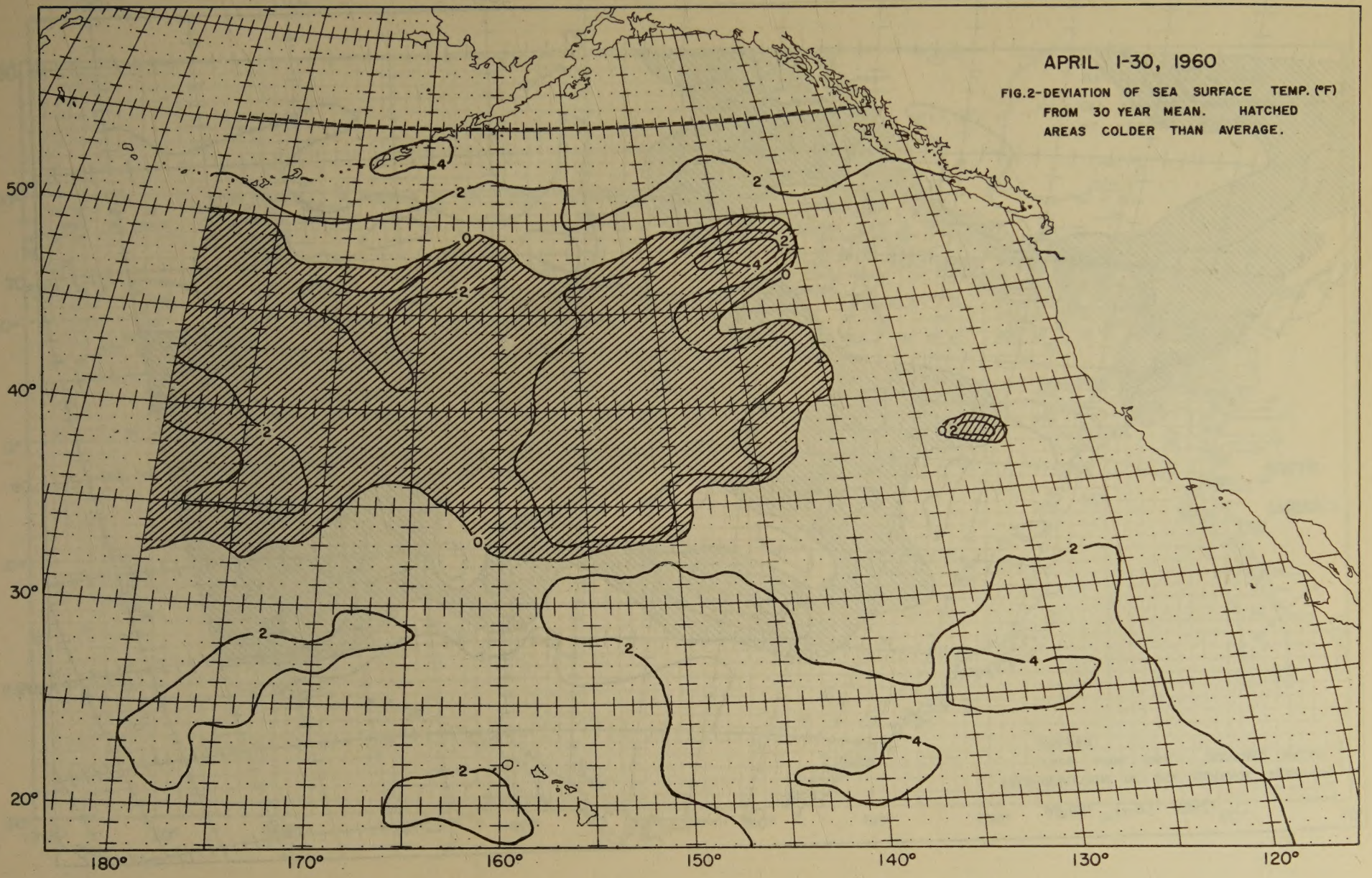
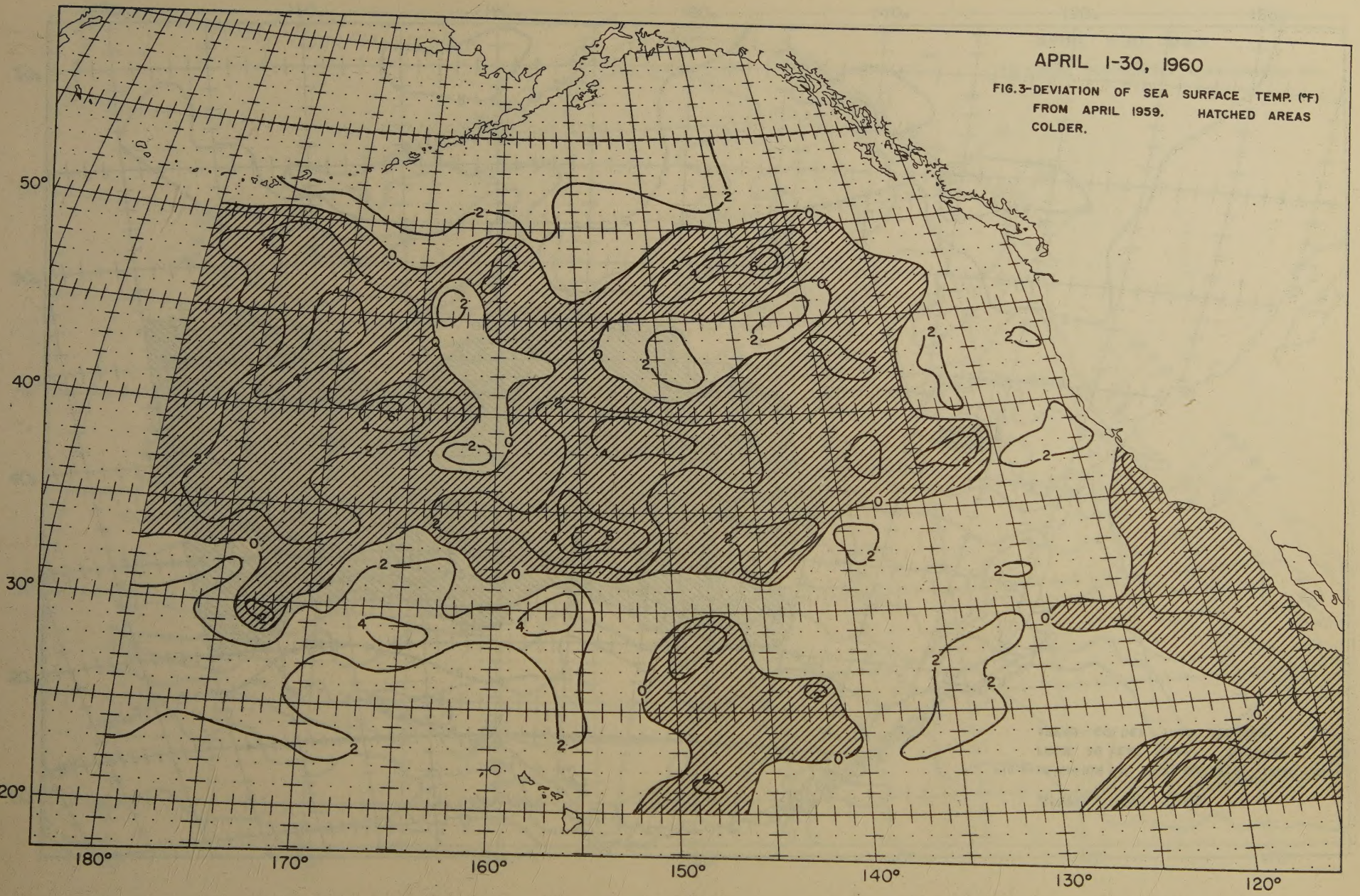
Description of Tropical Anomaly Charts

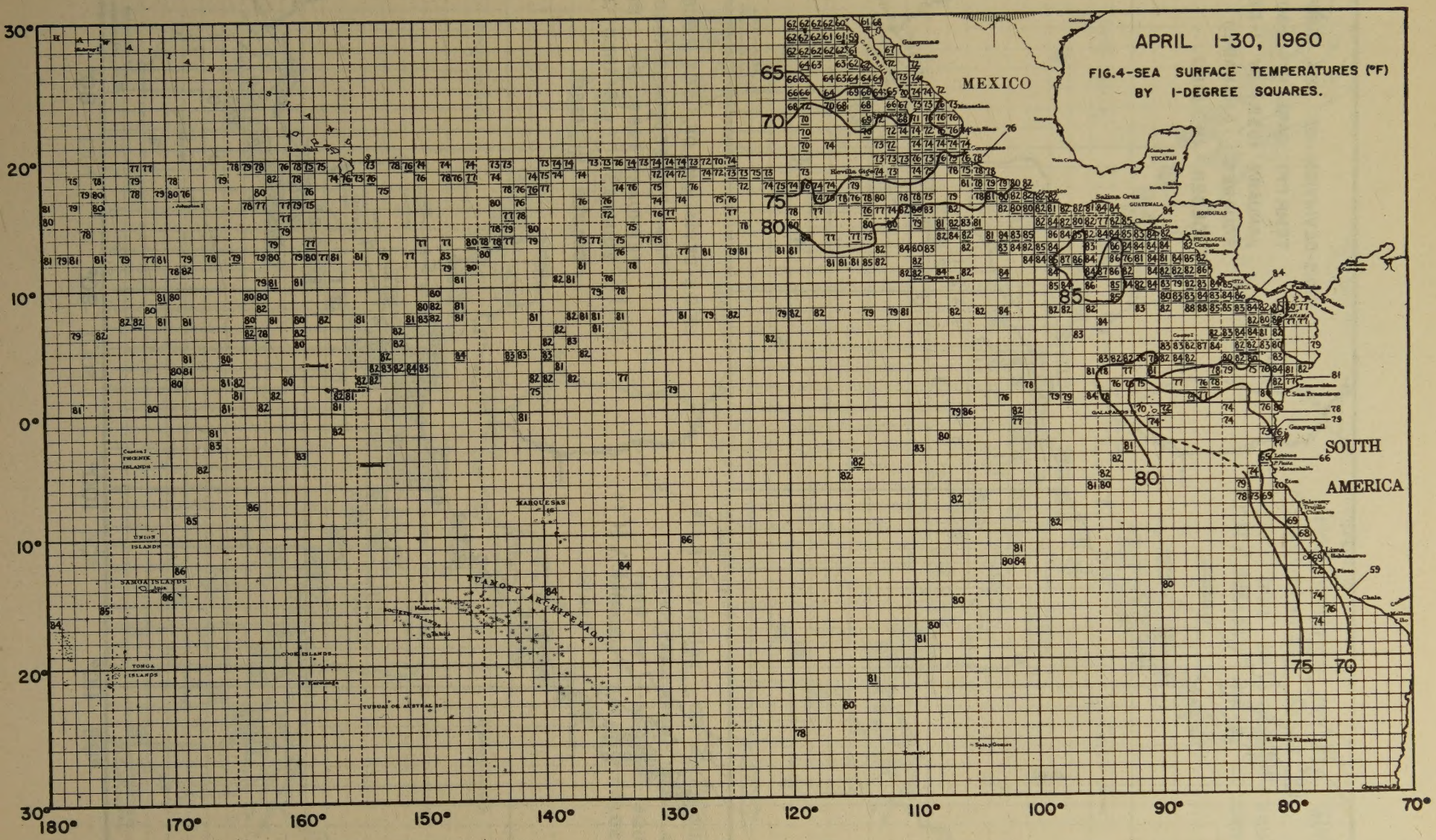
Commencing with this issue, we are including in the series of monthly sea-surface temperature charts an additional chart for the tropical region. It shows the difference (°F) in water temperature by 1-degree square from that of the preceding year. Comparisons are made only for those 1-degree squares for which two or more observations were recorded in both the current and preceding year. The present issue contains not only the April 1960-April 1959 deviations (Figure 8), but also the deviations for the first three months of 1960 over the same months of 1959 (Figures 5-7).

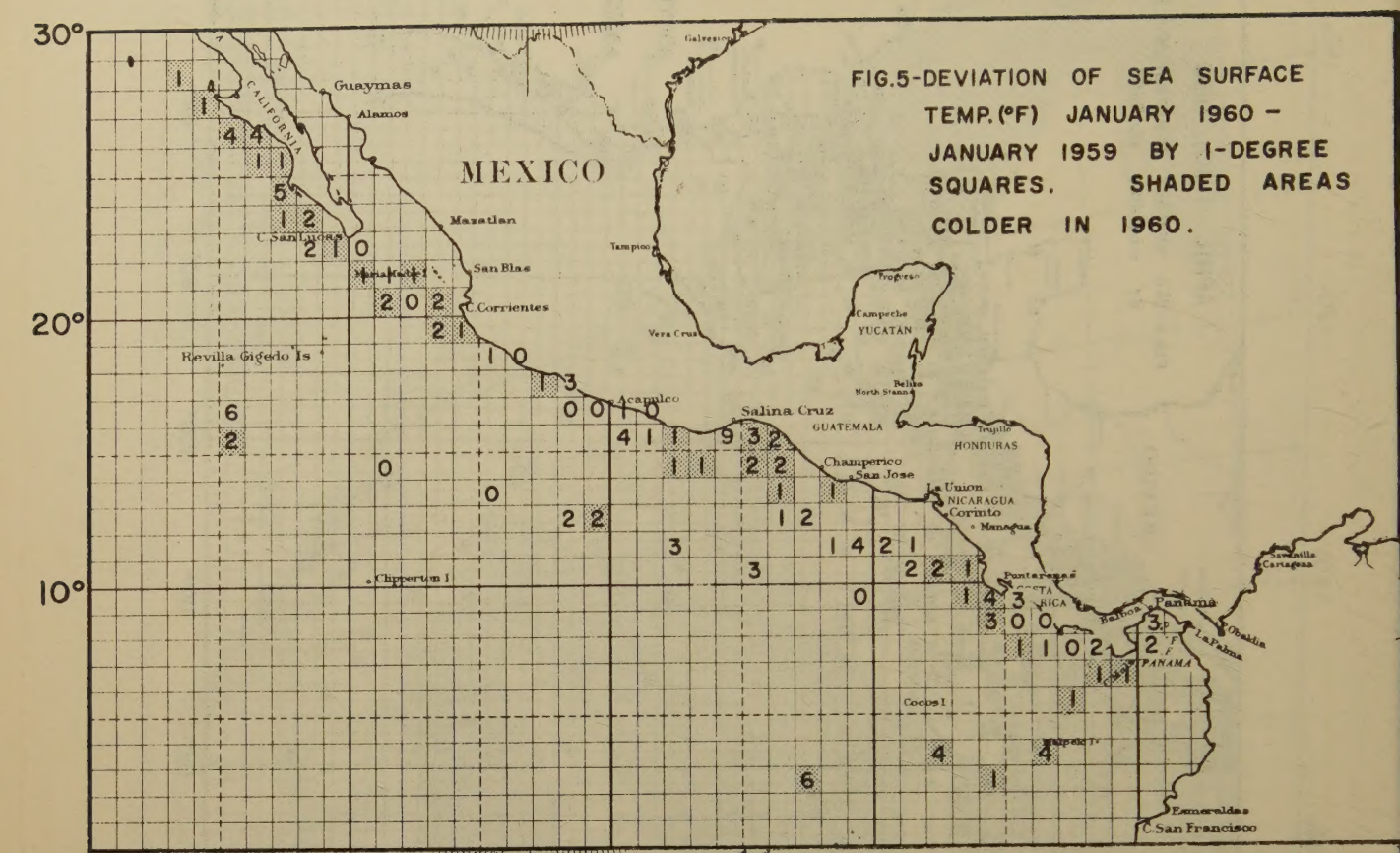
Figures 5-8 indicate that temperatures in the tropical area were considerably cooler during the first four months of 1960 than they were in 1959, which was regarded as a "warm year" by our tropical fishermen. The largest differences (5 and 6 degrees common) occurred off the west coast of Baja California in February and March. In April, negative deviations in this area were only about half those of February and March, but increased substantially in the coastal waters between 15° and 20° N. latitude. Although our data are sparse, they do suggest that the cooler deviations extended seaward at least several hundred miles.

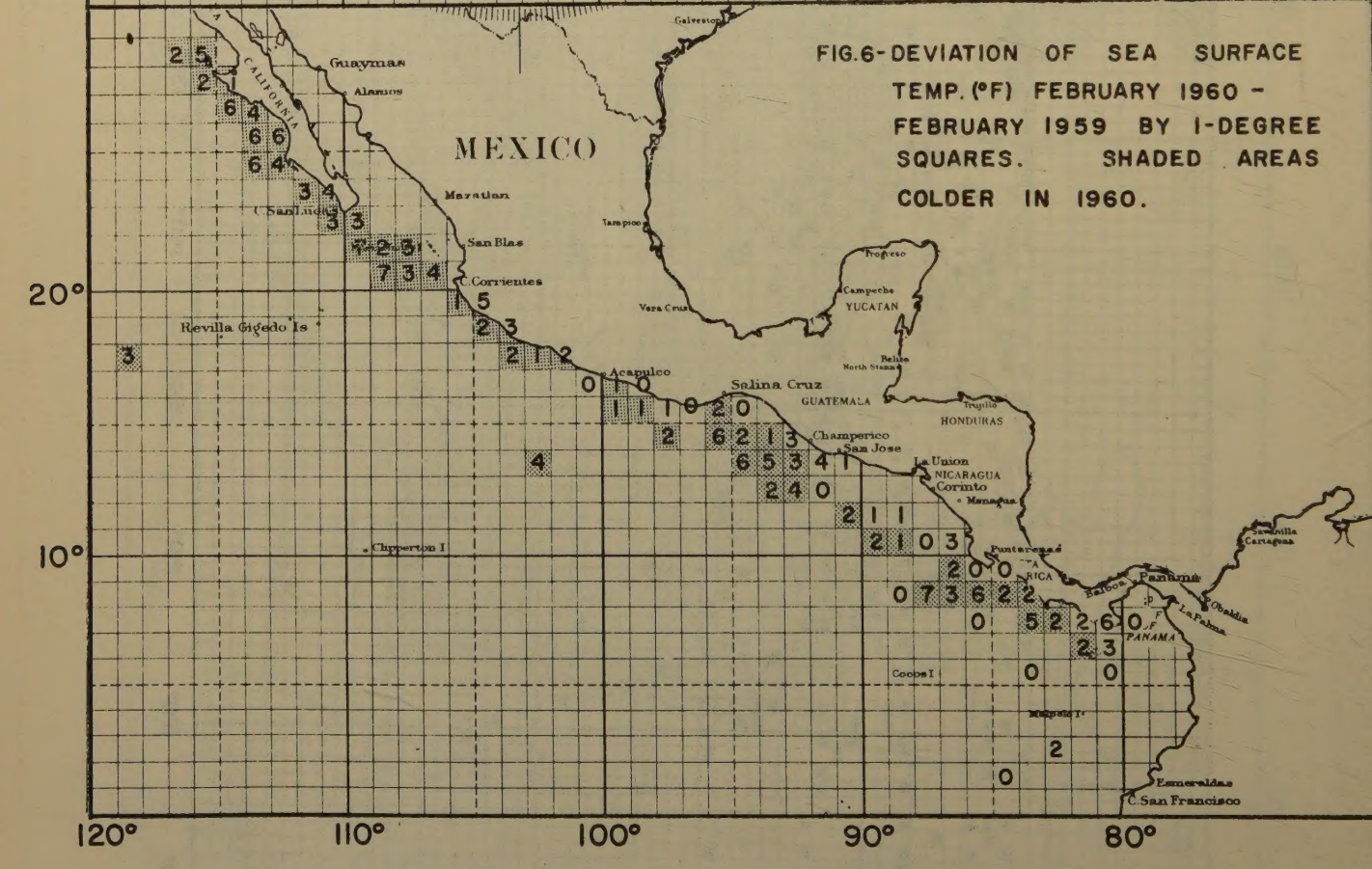

APRIL 1-30, 1960
FIG. I-MEAN SEA SURFACE TEMPERATURES (°F).
50°
40°
30°
20°
180°
170°
160°
150°
140°
130°
120°


APRIL 1-30, 1960
FIG.2-DEVIATION OF SEA SURFACE TEMP. (°F) FROM 30 YEAR MEAN. HATCHED AREAS COLDER THAN AVERAGE.
50°
40°
30°
20°
180°
170°
160°
150°
140°
130°
120°


APRIL 1-30, 1960
FIG.3-DEVIATION OF SEA SURFACE TEMP. (°F) FROM APRIL 1959. HATCHED AREAS COLDER.
50°
40°
30°
20°
180°
170°
160°
150°
140°
130°
120°


APRIL 1-30, 1960
FIG.4-SEA SURFACE TEMPERATURES (°F)
BY 1-DEGREE SQUARES.
MEXICO
SOUTH
AMERICA
30°
20°
10°
0°
10°
20°
30°
180°
170°
160°
150°
140°
130°
120°
110°
100°
90°
80°
70°


30°
20°
10°
MEXICO
Guaymas
Alamos
CALIFORNIA
Mazatlan
C. San Lucas
San Blas
C. Corrientes
Revilla Gigedo Is
Tampico
Vera Cruz
Progreso
Campeche
YUCATAN
Belize
North Stann
Acapulco
Salina Cruz
GUATEMALA
Trujillo
HONDURAS
Champerico
San Jose
La Union
NICARAGUA
Corinto
Managua
Clipperton I
Punta Arenas
COSTA RICA
Panama
Balboa
Obaldia
La Palma
PANAMA
Cocos I
Malpelo I.
Esmeraldas
C. San Francisco
FIG.5-DEVIATION OF SEA SURFACE TEMP.(°F) JANUARY 1960 - JANUARY 1959 BY 1-DEGREE SQUARES. SHADED AREAS COLDER IN 1960.


20°
10°
MEXICO
Guaymas
Alamos
CALIFORNIA
Mazatlan
C. San Lucas
San Blas
C. Corrientes
Revilla Gigedo Is
Tampico
Vera Cruz
Progreso
Campeche
YUCATAN
Belize
North Stann
Acapulco
Salina Cruz
GUATEMALA
Trujillo
HONDURAS
Champerico
San Jose
La Union
NICARAGUA
Corinto
Managua
Clipperton I
Punta Arenas
COSTA RICA
Panama
Balboa
Obaldia
La Palma
PANAMA
Cocos I
Malpelo I.
Esmeraldas
C. San Francisco
FIG.6-DEVIATION OF SEA SURFACE TEMP.(°F) FEBRUARY 1960 - FEBRUARY 1959 BY 1-DEGREE SQUARES. SHADED AREAS COLDER IN 1960.

120°
110°
100°
90°
80°

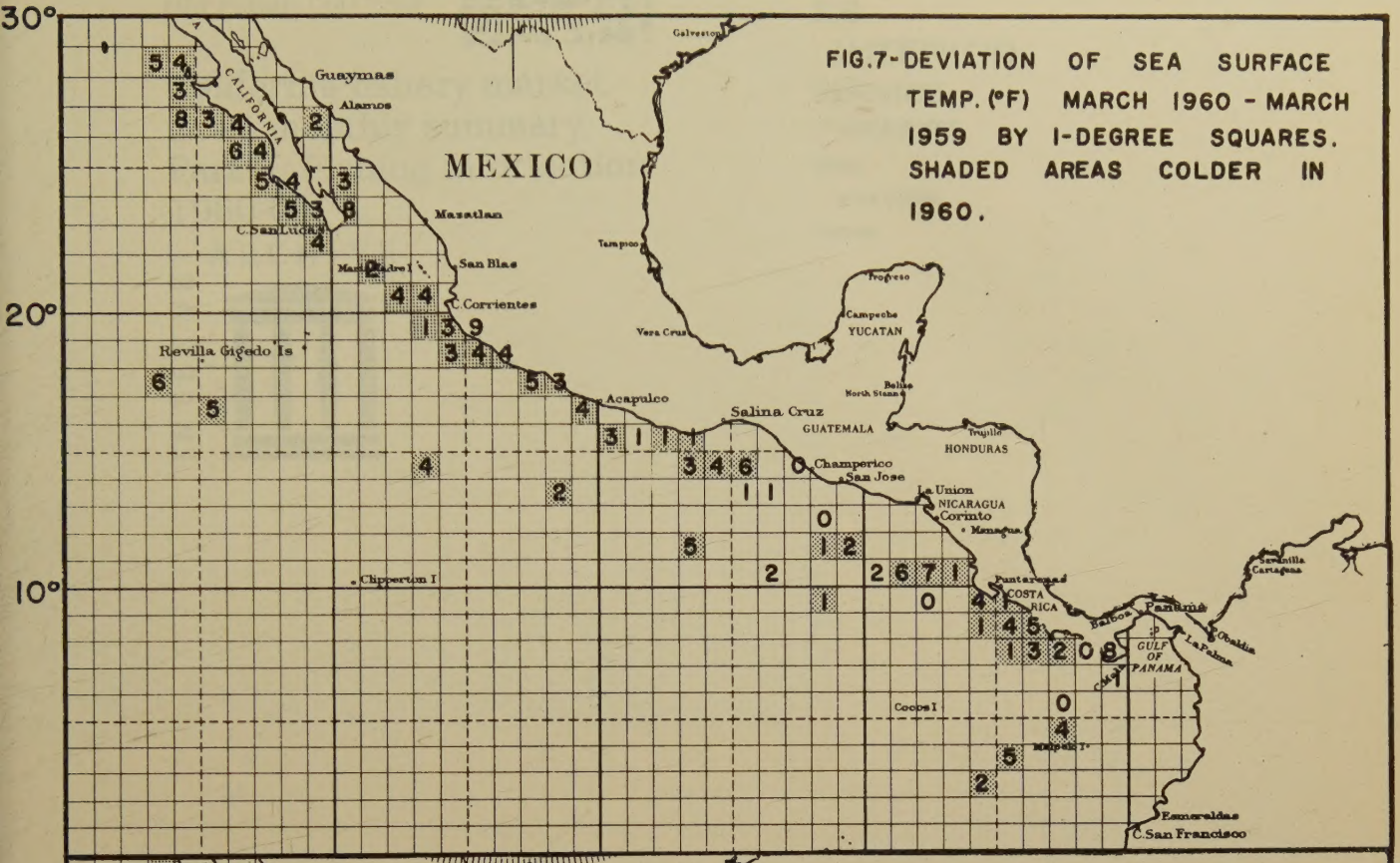


FIG.7-DEVIATION OF SEA SURFACE TEMP. (°F) MARCH 1960 - MARCH 1959 BY 1-DEGREE SQUARES. SHADED AREAS COLDER IN 1960.

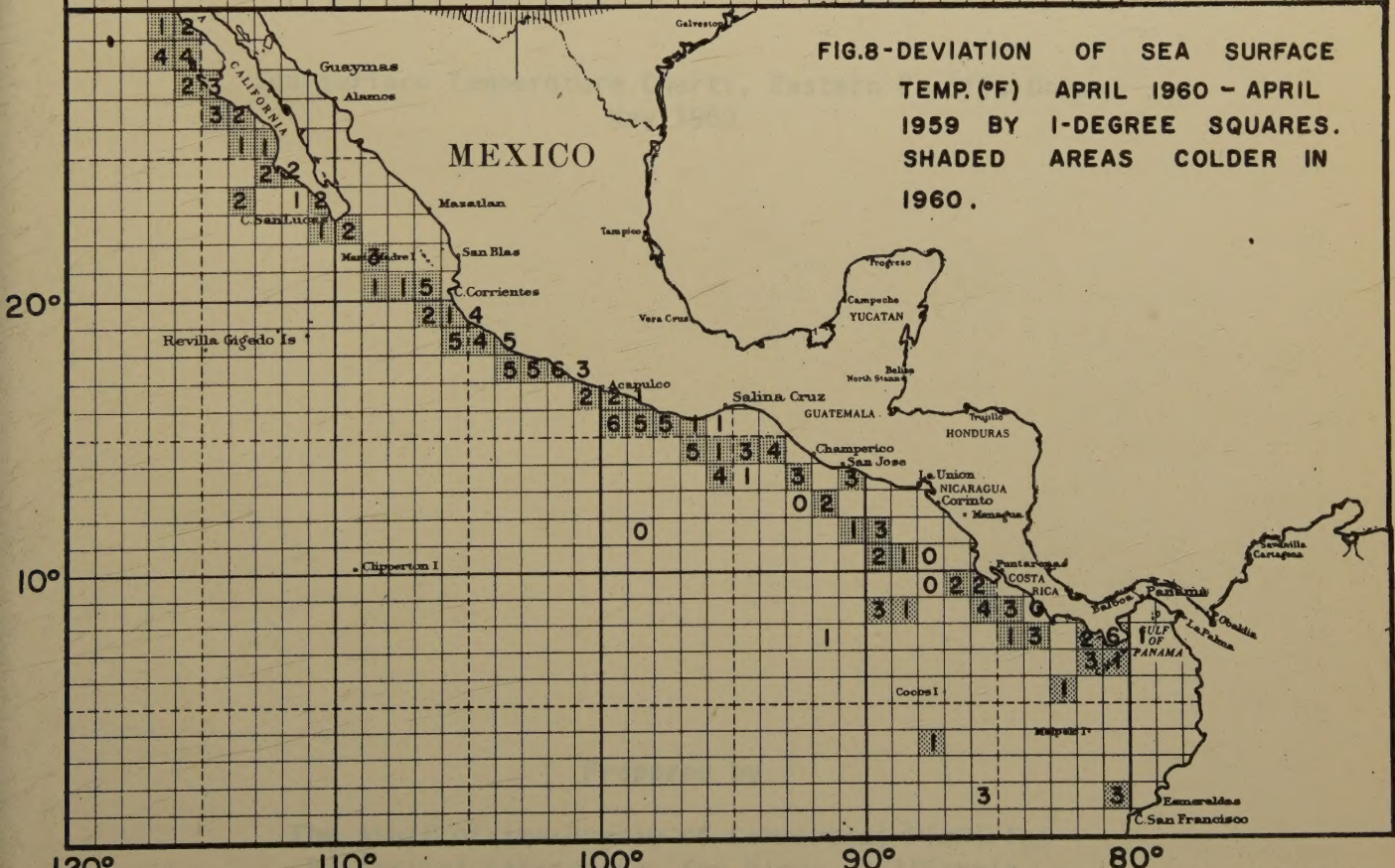


FIG.8-DEVIATION OF SEA SURFACE TEMP. (°F) APRIL 1960 - APRIL 1959 BY 1-DEGREE SQUARES. SHADED AREAS COLDER IN 1960.